



# STATE OF NEVADA

Department of Conservation & Natural Resources

DIVISION OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

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## NEWS RELEASE

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### **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR 6<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL WATER QUALITY SNAPSHOT DAY**

#### **Community Volunteers To Test Water Quality in Truckee River and Lake Tahoe**

CARSON CITY— The sixth annual Water Quality Snapshot Day will be held Saturday, May 20, in Reno, Truckee and Lake Tahoe, and volunteers are needed to help conduct the water quality sampling. The event is a citizen-based environmental effort designed to take a snapshot, at one moment in time, of the water quality throughout the Lake Tahoe and Truckee River watershed. Water quality monitoring will take place from the tributaries flowing into Lake Tahoe all the way to the waters of Pyramid Lake. It is sponsored by the Nevada Division of Environmental Protection and the City of Reno.

Community volunteers will meet at central locations in Reno, Truckee and Lake Tahoe for an overview briefing about water quality measurements. Reno-area volunteers will meet at Bartley Ranch Regional Park, 6000 Bartley Ranch Rd., at 8:30 a.m. to get their team and stream assignments.

Volunteer teams, led by water-resource professionals, will then fan out to take samples and measurements at various locations at the same time on the same day. The teams will field-test streams for dissolved oxygen, conductivity, pH and temperature; collect water samples for laboratory analysis of nutrients, sediment and bacteria; and conduct visual habitat assessments of the sites. Team leaders will share watershed facts and provide information about how citizens can improve and protect the Truckee River and Lake Tahoe watershed.

The goal of the event is to stimulate citizen interest and participation in local water quality issues. It is also intended to provide baseline data that potentially could be used in ongoing and future environmental projects, and to stimulate a large-scale collaborative effort to prevent further degradation of water quality in the watershed.

To be a volunteer, no previous experience is necessary, but anyone wanting to be a team leader will have to attend a training class. To sign up as a volunteer or a team leader, call Mary Kay Riedl at (775) 687-9454 (for Truckee River sampling), and Leslie Allen at (775) 784-4848 or (775) 832-4138 (for Lake Tahoe sampling).

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